



Office of the Assistant National Director
Access and Integration

HSE Mental Health Services,
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Oifig an Stiúrthóir Náisiúnta Cúnta
Rochtain agus Comhtháthú: Seirbhísi
Meabhairshláinte FSS
Ospidéal Naomh Loman
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Deput Sorca Clarke
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

7th July 2025

PQ Number: 35444/25

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the number of fully staffed CAMHS teams currently operational, per health region; and the number of additional teams that would be required to meet national guidelines, taking the increase in population into account. -Sorca Clarke

Dear Deputy Clarke

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

StV has various specific recommendations relating to Youth Mental Health, including the specialist Child and Adolescent Mental health Services (CAMHS). StV is less prescriptive than AVFC and allows greater flexibility to plan and deliver all Youth Mental Health services, including CAMHS, to best meet evolving service needs at local level. Good progress is being made overall on implementation of StV, with implementation status progress reports regularly published online by the Department of Health.

The Health Service Executives priority is to ensure that children who need services can access them and access them on time. This is in line with Sharing the Vision, our suicide reduction strategy, Connecting for Life, and the HSE Annual Service Plan 2025.

Year-on-year funding for mental health services increased from €1.3 billion announced in Budget 2024 to almost €1.5 billion in 2025. This represents a 10.7% annual increase. CAMHS nationally receives approximately €167 million annually, with a further €110 million provided to NGOs, many of which focus on youth mental health. Under Budget 2025, an additional €2.9 million will support CAMHS to increase core staffing, develop a new CAMHS Emergency Liaison Service and expand CAMHS Hubs to improve crisis cover for services.

CAMHS is a secondary care specialist service for those aged up to 18 years, who have a moderate to severe mental health difficulty. Access to CAMHS is on the basis of prioritised clinical assessment, in line with the CAMHS Operational Guidelines which are available on the HSE website. All referrals to CAMHS are assessed by a multidisciplinary team.



Approximately 2% of the population require support from this specialist service with over 90% of mental health needs requiring treatment in a primary care setting.

Table 1 below shows the current (May 2025), number of Community CAMHS teams (81) along with their total Whole Time Equivalents (WTE) 861.5 of which 729.8 are Clinical WTEs across the 6 HSE regions."

Table 1

Community CAMHS WTE	No. of Teams	Total WTE	Total Clinical WTE
HSE Dublin & Midlands (Area B)	19*	155.3	131.7
HSE Dublin & North East (Area A)	17*	203.6	177.1
HSE Dublin & South East (Area C)	15*	159.3	135.4
HSE Mid-West (Area E)	7	71.5	63.5
HSE South West (Area D)	11*	133.4	109.3
HSE West & North West (Area F)	12*	138.5	112.9
National	81*	861.5	729.8

**includes overarching speciality teams(6 in total)*

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours Sincerely,

Paul Braham
Senior Operations Manager (Area DON)
Access and Integration; HSE Mental Health Services